



## News Release

January 20, 2012

### NOTICE OF DECISION

By Board Order 7/12, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves a 23% reduction in Primary Gas rates for Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. (Centra), to be effective February 01, 2012. The new rate for Primary gas will be 11.05 cents per cubic metre, down from 14.36 cents per cubic metre. On average, annual bills for residential customers will decrease by 9.2% or \$79 per year.

Primary gas rates for customers with fixed-term and price contracts with either Centra or a private broker are not affected; such rates are set by contract.

Natural gas commodity prices are volatile, and customers are encouraged to consider energy efficient options including, most importantly, high-efficiency gas-fired furnaces and improved insulation. In this time of low natural gas prices, customers should avail themselves of Manitoba Hydro's energy efficiency programs, which include special programs for lower income customers. The lower-income furnace replacement program in particular should be attractive to eligible consumers – the savings from reduced gas consumption should be more than the \$19 per month charge for the furnace upgrade.

A copy of the Order, which contains significant additional information, may be reviewed on the Board's website [www.pub.gov.mb.ca](http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca), or be obtained through the Board's Office.

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